

J. P. Mc Kennedy Esq

Superintendent U.S. Branch Mint

New Orleans

From New York
Counterfeit Gold Coin

New Orleans April 8th 1848

J. P. Mc Kennedy Esq
Sup^t U.S. Branch Mint
Sir

From 1843 to 1846 I was clerk of the Criminal Court of the First District, held in this City, when certain individuals were convicted of counterfeiting the Gold Coin of the United States.

Among the coin found in their possession were counterfeit half and quarter eagles to the amount of several Hundred Dollars, perfectly executed, and the dies which were taken from them at the time were by order of Court thrown into the Mississippi, were exact facsimiles of the Original used in the Mint. They also had a large number of Engravers tools and implements. The tools were by me shown to Mr J. V. Childs, a distinguished Engraver of this City. He kept them as they were very fine.

Of those counterfeiters the principal one was a certain Orlando H. Willis, who underwent his punishment, to wit: confinement for Three years at Hard Labor in the Penitentiary at Baton Rouge. and is now said to be in this city.

The establishment of these men

was said to be, at the time, come where up the river.
8 The composition of the coins in their possession
was different from that of the counterfeits recently
discovered, there was no coating and the process
resorted to must have been that of galvanism.

Very respectfully

Yours of St

Wm A. Scott